

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01458 051036Z

47

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07 NSC-07 SS-20 DRC-01

H-03 IO-14 /101 W

----- 118183

R 050920Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2735

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

UNCLAS SEOUL 1458

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, KS, US

SUBJECT: PRESS PLAY ON DOD ANNUAL REPORT

1. KOREAN PRESS AND MEDIA HAVE GIVEN SUBSTANTIAL COVERAGE TO DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S ANNUAL DEFENSE REPORT TO CONGRESS.
2. FOCUSING ON PORTION OF REPORT REFERRING TO KOREA, PRESS ARTICLES HAVE EMPHASIZED REPORTS' STATEMENT THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS TO REDEPLOY THE U.S. DIVISION NOW LOCATED IN KOREA, AND THAT FURTHER LARGE-SCALE OR RAPID REDUCTION OF U.S. FORCES IN WESTERN PACIFIC WOULD HAVE UNSETTLING EFFECTS. PRESS ALSO HAS NOTED HOWEVER, THAT DEFSEC MAKES NO PROMISES TO KEEP TROOPS IN KOREA INDEFINITELY: RATHER HE INDICATES THAT U.S. DIVISIONS IN EAST ASIA WILL HAVE BROADER ROLE IN FUTURE.
3. OTHER POINTS IN DOD REPORT HIGHLIGHTED ARE: PRIMARY ROLE OF AMERICAN FORCES IS AS A SHIELD AGAINST UNCERTAINTY AND DEFECTS IN ROKS OWN DEFENSE SYSTEM AND TO CHECK PROVOCATIONS BY NORTH KOREA; ROK DEFENSE CAPABILITY (CHOSEN ILBO) HAS PROGRESSED IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND THAT WHEN MODERNIZATION PROGRAM COMPLETED ROKS WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE NORTH KOREAN ATTACK WITHOUT OUTSIDE HELP.

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HABIB

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT BUDGET, MILITARY PLANS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
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Draft Date: 05 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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